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Approved For Release 2001/11/26 : CIA-RDP82-00457R005000590011-4

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Koethen Airfield

25X1A

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 19 June 1950

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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25X1X

- 25X1C
1. No aircraft were seen at the Koethen (L 52/D 95) airfield. The closed hangars and the fuel dump were guarded by sentries wearing black-bordered, blue epaulets. The occupation of the field by army troops seemed to be unchanged. Besides many army motor vehicles, air force truck [REDACTED] and ambulance [REDACTED] were seen.* 25X1C
 2. Several local residents confirmed that the aircraft previously stationed at the field departed and have not returned.
 3. A German in charge of the construction work at the field said that the runway was to be 60 x 1,800 meters, that a parallel 14 x 1,800-meter taxiway, 14 meters wide, was to lead from the eastern end of the runway to the hangars. The runway was to be excavated by a dredger, to a depth of 35 cm, then filled with a 20-cm gravel layer and topped by a 15-cm concrete cover. The construction firm in charge of the work had allegedly done the same type construction work at the airfields near Leipzig (L 52/S 21) (Brandis ?) Dessau and Weimar (L 51/J 57).
 4. Two shifts, each of 300 men, worked at the field from 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. About half of the excavation work was completed. Loads of gravel arrived continually. Three concrete mixers were available but concreting had not yet begun. A total of 1,000 laborers were allegedly to work in three shifts.**

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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~~Comment.~~ The information that the airfield is no longer occupied by aircraft was confirmed by other sources. The ground attack regiment was transferred to Stendal, but the present location of the air reconnaissance regiment is not known. The latter regiment was observed frequently during training flights but its location could not be determined.

25X1C

It is assumed that parts of ground units of this regiment are still stationed at the field.

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** ~~Comment.~~ The construction work at the field was previously reported but the concrete cover of the runway was then stated to be only 6 to 8 cm. It cannot be determined which statement is correct. The construction of a concrete taxiway is reported for the first time. No information is available on the improvement work at the Dessau airfield.

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